



Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed

**SUBJECT: GREEN VISION 2011 ANNUAL
REPORT AND 2012 WORK PLAN**

DATE: March 19, 2012

Approved

Chuck Reed

Date

3/19/12

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the staff report with the following changes:

1. Focus existing resources to retain, expand, and attract clean tech businesses as a high priority in the next 18 months.
2. Increase the number of years we apply energy-efficiency saving and rebates to the energy fund from two years to five years, and allow the use some of some of the money as the match necessary to secure State and Federal grants.
3. Amend the way we are reporting the amount of renewable energy produced (Goal #3). We are reporting the total number of solar systems installed and the equivalent number of residential systems. We should report the total amount of renewable energy produced from all sources (not just solar) and compare it to our goal of 100% of our energy coming from renewable sources based on the total amount of energy needed in 2007 less 50% based on our goal to reduce consumption per capita by 50 percent.
4. Explore private financing options to fund our streetlight conversion and building retrofit projects.
5. In the budget process, identify opportunities for grants that may require matching funds and estimates of the amount needed.

BACKGROUND

Our Green Vision goal of creating 25,000 clean tech jobs (Goal #1) has been made more challenging with the loss of the Redevelopment Agency and its funding capacity. We need to aggressively align Goal #1 with the highest priority Action Items of the City's Economic Strategy: retention and recruitment of driving industry companies and working at the speed of business. A focused plan to generate clean tech jobs should be brought to both T&E and CED Committees as part of staff's regular quarterly reporting.

When we passed the Green Vision in 2007, we established our long-term goals knowing the amount of energy we need to supply the entire city was a moving target. In order to demonstrate progress toward Goal #3, we need to make the total amount of energy needed a fixed number based on the amount of energy needed at the time we established our goal.

We have also been making strides toward achieving our streetlight and energy-efficiency goals with the help of State and Federal grants. With those funds being reduced, we should explore the use of private financing as has been done recently in several neighboring cities to pay for the improvements up front and repay the loans through the savings achieved from the reduced energy consumption.